New automobile policy

57. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT : Will the Minister ot INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government propose to announce a new (automobile policy; and

(b> if so, what are the main features of the policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRl M. ARUNACHALAM); (a) and (b) This matter is under considers tion of the Government.

Shortage of LPG Refills

58. SHRI J. P. GOYAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whelher it is *i*> fact that there is shortage of LPG refills in Delhi and the consumers are supplied refills after one week of the booking m;ide with the dealer;

(b) if so, what ar<? the reasons of the short supply of LPG refills;

(c) whether Governmen; are aware of the difficulties and inconvenience being experienced oy the consumers for not getting LPG refills for one week or so; and

(d) what efforts nave been made by Government to ensure supply of refills Io the LPG consumers within the shortest possible time?

THE MTNISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL HAS (SHRT CHANDRA SHEKHAR SlNGH): (a) to (c) There was teorn^ backlog in supply of refills in Delhi/New Delhi recently. The main reasons w»re °s follows'

(i) Increased winter demand.

(ii) Reduced bottling at Shakurbasti (Delhi) danfs of Indian Oil Corporation and Bharat Petroleum Corporation, following erratic functioning of filling machines and weighing systems,

(iii) Law and Order situation in some areas of Old Delhi.

(d) Extra supplies were arranged from Mathura, Koyaii, Bombay and Allahabad. With rectiiicatory s.eps at the Shakurbasti bottling plants, have ing been completed, the situation has improved.

Electrification of villages throughnon-conventional sources of energy

59. SHRl J- P. GOYAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whelher there is any proposal under Government's consideration for electrification of villages through non-conventional sources of energy;

(b) • if so, what steps have been taken in this regard;

(c) whether die State Electricity Boards have been advised in this respect; and

(d) if so, the guidelines issued to them in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d) The programme of initial electrification through provision of solar photovoltaic street lighting units wns taken up as a demonstration programme by the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources through the Rural Electrification Corporation, State Electricity Boards and State Renewable Energy Agencies. So far, over 200 villages have been provided with photovoltaic street lights and in some cases with photovoltaic systems for community facilities. Electrification of villages in remote and backward aireas using non-conventional energy sources has been included in the Seventh Plan document also. The Department of Non-Convent ionnl Energy Sources and the Rural Electrification